

THE TRUMPET



Firelands Presbyterian Church

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www.firelandschurch.org

Rev. David Aber, Pastor

Dave Moore, Clerk of Session

Susan Larcey & Kay McIntosh,
Musicians

Karen Salzgeber, Treasurer

Janet Gray-Moore
Financial Secretary

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Firelanders!

Since I do not live in Port Clinton, I asked Dave Wahlers to show me around town. We jumped into his pristine 2007 white glove clean truck and took off. From the Route 2 & Fremont Road exchange on the west side of town to Lakeside and Marblehead in the east, Dave had a story to tell about farms and farming, town kids and country kids, tough areas and scenic highlights (including the Wahlers family farm and fruit stand). Every mile and minute was filled with anecdotes from his past and insights into how much and how fast this region has changed!

Because “church” is my vocation, I marked the number of non-denominational churches that we drove past, and made a point this week to look at their websites. I read their belief statements, if one was posted, and found that the main points of the Apostles’ Creed showed up often, which didn’t surprise me as the Creed includes the basics of our Christian faith. But other beliefs about how to read Scripture, how to be married, how to raise children sounded legalistic. I looked for statements about the Holy Spirit and did not find much at all. I thought, it is easier to go strong in the Law or strong in the Spirit (as do Pentecostals) than it is to hold them in tension as we do as Presbyterians.

I watched recordings of their worship services. I noticed that every church had many worship leaders and worship attenders with gray hair! It is a fact of religious life in Ottawa County that older people live and worship here. Firelands is no different. We have better music, better musicians, better congregational participation in the order of worship and in singing. I admit my prejudice - my spirit would not be nourished nor challenged by the worship I saw online. I don’t imagine it would be different if I attend in person.

Churches that boast of having families and children use lots of “stock” photographs in place of pictures of real people. Perhaps this is to protect the privacy of the families with children, but it is also simply a tool of how to market in the media.

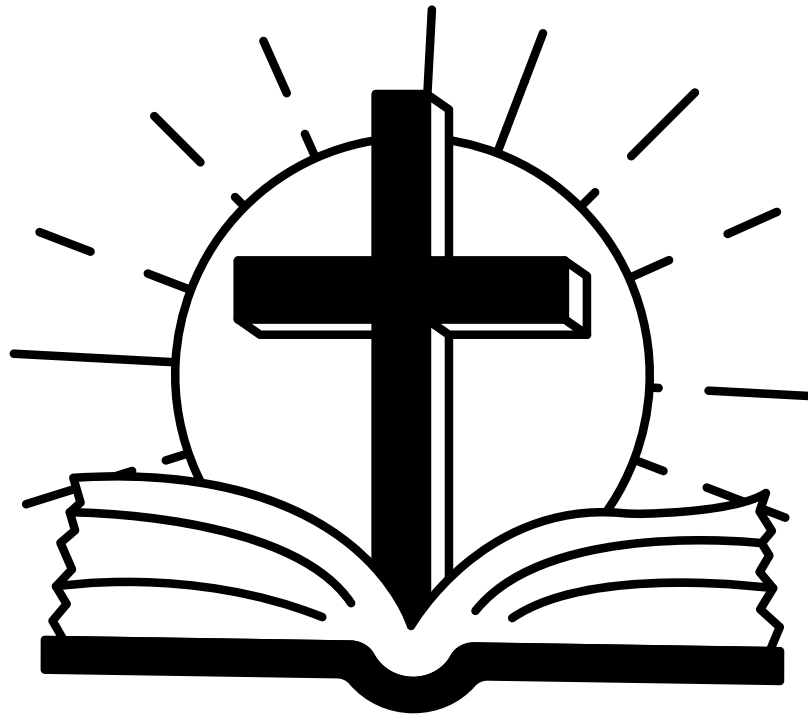
A few churches did not have phone numbers that connected to anyone when I called, and a few others had websites that were false or offered little value.

Firelanders, I critique churches for a reason: I am willing to learn from anyone how to be a more faithful preacher of the Gospel, a more skilled worship leader, a more compassionate pray-er in order that you, members of the congregation, might be more rooted and formed in Christ. On Sunday, June 14th, a glorious day in your church history, I learned from hearing Bob Butcher preach and pray, and Matt Meinke speak to the challenging work of mission, and from watching Bobbie Bella greet you in Fellowship Hall in Christian love. After looking around town, in the unscientific casual way of Dave Wahlers' personal tour, I am more strongly convinced of the real value of Firelands Presbyterian Church in Port Clinton! We are blessed to be a blessing!

Do I understand how all the churches of Ottawa County - mainline, non-denominational, Pentecostal, Orthodox - fit into the grand design of the Kingdom of God? Not at all! That is above my paygrade! But of this I am certain; Firelands Presbyterian Church is a shining jewel in the crown of glory that is the Christian Church in her many and varied expressions. I know a good church when I see one, and I have looked! I like what I see at Firelands.

Grace, and peace to you from your pastor,

Rev. David Aber



Firelands Church Session Meeting

Trumpet Summary
Firelands Church Session Meeting

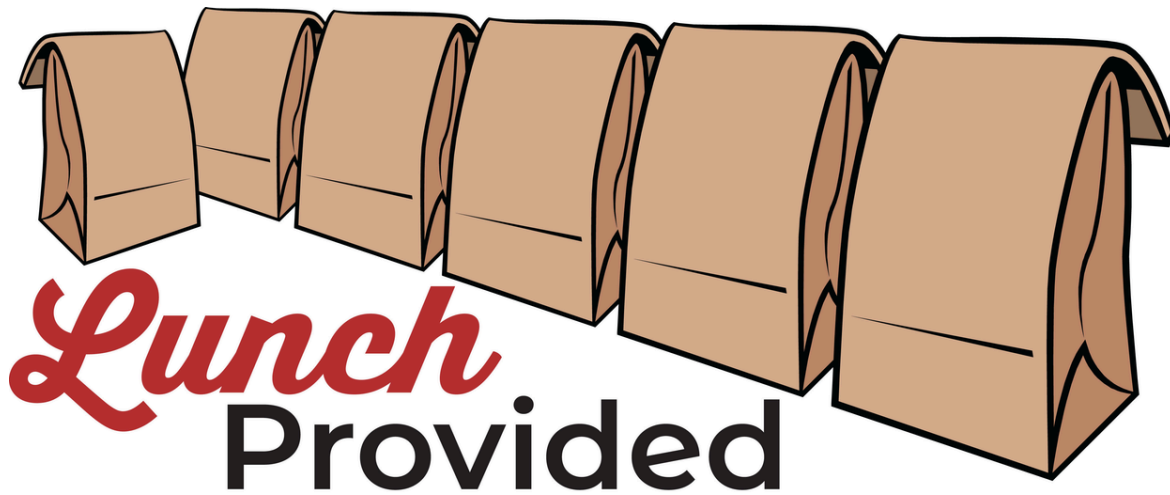
6/9/2026

1. As Karen Salzgeber is out of the country at this time, there is no treasurer's report for this afternoon's meeting. Jay (our Financial Stewardship Chair) offered that Karen has voiced no financial concerns to him.
2. The Deacon's Report was read and approved by session.
3. David expressed concern about our readiness for medical emergencies here at Firelands Church. I informed him that we have recently held 2 CPR/AED Red Cross certification classes (in August and October of 2025) for members of our congregation (and have historically provided this training approximately every 3 years). Between the two sessions last year, 23 members of our congregation took advantage of the training (provided by Dan Barlow, a Fireman/EMT from the Catawba Island Volunteer Fire Department and several of his associates from the department). And we do have a functional AED here at the church (and it is evaluated yearly to ensure that it is in good repair). Going forward, reasonable steps have been taken to mitigate the risks to members of our congregation who suffer a medical emergency here on the church property.
4. Deb Flora, the acting liaison for the Christian Education/Nurture committee, reports that Sunday School has stopped for the summer. Pastor David's Wed. Bible study is the only education continuing here at the church through the summer.

Dave Moore
Clerk of Session



Church Session Meeting



HELP PACK SUMMER LUNCHES!

Sign up for Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday shifts from now through mid-August. Shifts are 8:30am-10:00am; you will be part of an assembly line, putting one food item in a bag and pushing the bag to the next person (easy-peasy).

To sign up: go to <https://www.ocfamilyadvocacy.org>, scroll down and click on "Summer Lunch," scroll down to "Volunteer Opportunity" (note location: 8581 W Duff Washa Rd, Oak Harbor – turn left off Rte 2 right across from Davis Besse, 2 nd building on the right) and click on "Click to Sign-Up to Volunteer," pick your dates, click "sign up" on the right side and follow directions Need help signing up, or need a ride, call Ed Carlson, 419-307-5536. Ed and Shirley and Jenny Dewald have already worked one shift and hope you will join them feeding needy families in Ottawa County this summer.
~Ed Carlson



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Our church food pantry continues to serve those in need within our community. Kroger food cards and nonperishable food is purchased, packed and delivered to Transitional Housing almost every month to be distributed to needy residents in Ottawa County. Through this ministry, we provide essential food items such as canned chicken, canned fruit and vegetables, peanut butter, canned soups, pasta, spaghetti sauce, macaroni and cheese, cereal and non refrigerated milk- helping ensure that individuals and families have access to nourishing meals during difficult times. In addition to food, we also offer personal care items such as toilet paper, soap or shampoo to support everyday needs. Always included are prayers of hope and words of encouragement so every recipient knows Firelands Presbyterian Church cares deeply for them and they are not alone. This long-standing mission is a meaningful expression of our church's commitment to serving our community and it brings relief and comfort to others.

What a blessing!

~Debbie Flora

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Your Deacons feel that the Fellowship Hour following worship is a vital part of our church family.. We are pleased that many in our congregation are using that opportunity to get to know each other better.

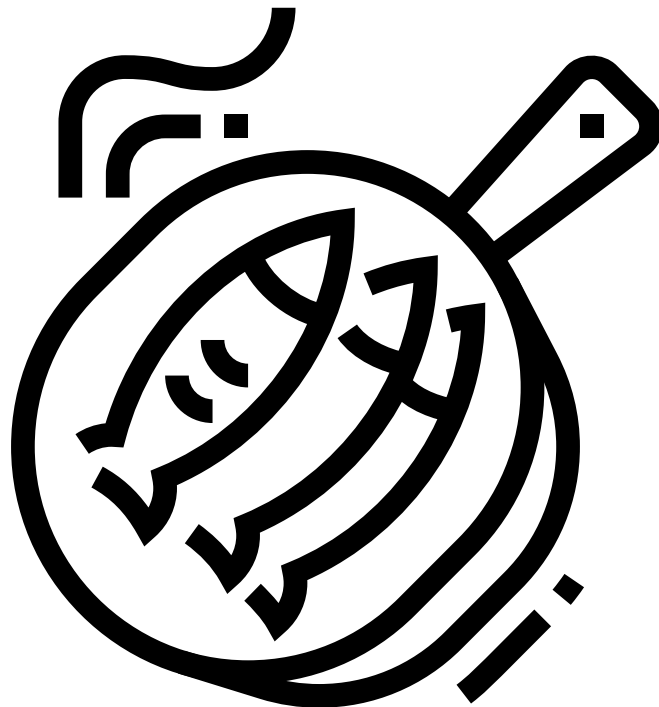
We do realize that those who help by preparing the snack need some help. The responsibility of providing the food seems to fall on the same five or six people or couples quite frequently. We are trying to simplify the snack menu. We are asking that only a dessert and one other type of snack such as fruit, veggies, or cheese be offered. In addition to coffee, we have one juice or punch type of beverage. We make an effort to provide at least a gluten free option, which can simply be the crackers that are provided in a drawer in the kitchen.

We hope this new arrangement will allow for more of you to participate in providing the snack. Shirley Carlson or Linda Holcomb will be happy to help you learn how to do the coffee and dishwasher. It is not hard. Any deacon who is there that Sunday can assist where needed. Please help us by signing up to take a Sunday now and then so the responsibility is more widely shared. If you do not have a spouse to help ask another friend to do it with you.

Thank you. If you have questions, call Shirley Carlson 419-307-5537.

SAVE THE DATE

There will be a FISH FRY, which includes faith, fellowship, and fun on Thursday, July 16 at 5:30. it will be a potluck and held outside in the church Pavilion , (weather permitting). A sign-up will be available in the narthex.



Readers &
Communion Assistants &
Ushers

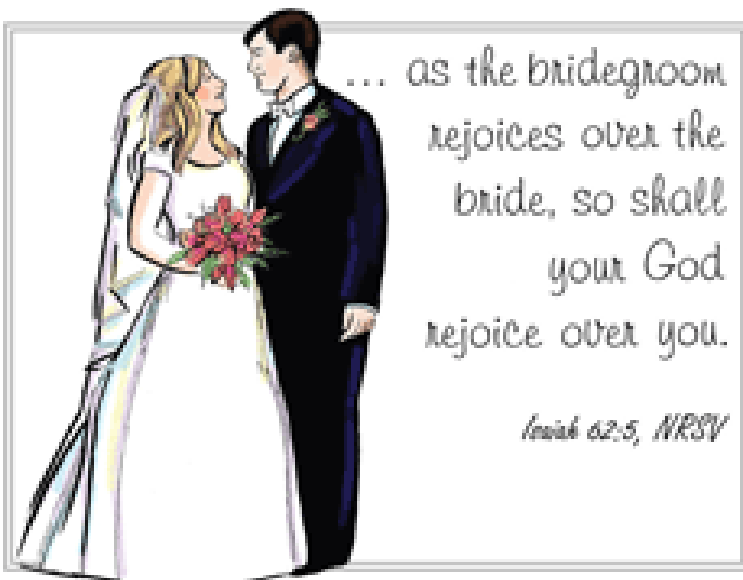


To be announced in bulletins

Janine Dress	6
Lily Stouffer	2
Shirley Stary	7
Karen Coffin	18
Wayne Walter	19
Rob Constien	20
Marilyn Umlauf	22
Anne Butcher	28

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Bill and Anne O'Malley	2
Tom and Joyce Jagucki	6
Don and Jenny Dewald	14



Ongoing Prayer Concerns

For those receiving medical treatment or therapy, or undergoing medical tests:

Connie Brand, Rob Constien, Garrett Holcomb, Bill and Pat Sharp, Jill Cooper, Karla Hoffman, Karen Dietz, Anne Trombatore, Linda Holcomb's sisters, Lois & Carol, Eric and Fiona Pott, Kay McIntosh's cousin, John McLaughlin and his wife Ele and Kay's friend Deb, Jerry Boroff, Sally Wahlers.

For those facing the infirmities of age:

Connie Brand, and Joan Brydon

For those seeking freedom, security, and hope: Bobby, Justin, Sara, Val, and GRANDLOVE Families

For those in the service of our country:

SMGT Jeff Bundy, Brant Crandall, USA; Cole Daniel, USCG; Matthew Devries, USAF; Major Jason Dewald USMC, Stu Gliwa, USMC; Aaron Haynes, USA; Andrew Hogue, USA, Ken Lewis USA Army Chaplain, Ted Livingstine, USMC, Majors Kurt & Lynsey Salzgeber USA Army.

Reading Scripture prior to worship is a devotional exercise easy to add to your week. The Gospel accounts following Easter present wonderful moments with the Risen Christ!

July 5.

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Psalm 50: 7-15

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11: 16 - 30

July 12.

Genesis 25:19-34 and Psalm 119:105-112

Isaiah 55:10-13 and Psalm 65:(1-8), 9-13

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19

Genesis 28:10-19a

Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19

Isaiah 44:6-8

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 26

Genesis 29:15-28

Psalm 128

1 Kings 3:5-12

Romans 8:26-39

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



July 2026
OFFICE HOURS TUES, WED & THURS 10:00am - 2:00am

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:30 Worship	10am Sewing Group	2-4 pm Dulcimer Group				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:30 Worship	10am Sewing Group 2:00 Health Exercise	3:30 Session Mtg.	10:30am Stein Hopsice Healing Hearts	5:30 Fish Fry & Fellowship		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30 10:30 Worship	10am Sewing Group 2:00 Health Exercise	2-4 pm Dulcimer Group				
26	27	28	29	30	31	August 1
10:00 Worship	10am Sewing Group 2:00 Health Ex. 5-6:30 Fresh Bread					